

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Domestic Violence From Historical, Cultural and Legal Perspectives**

GLENDALE, CA The public is invited on Thursday, January 15, 2015, at 7pm to a free informative discussion on *Domestic Violence from Historical, Cultural and Legal Perspectives* by Rita Avedissian, LMFT, and attorney Natalie Samarjian, in English and Armenian at the Glendale Central Library Auditorium, 222 East Harvard Street in Glendale. Library visitors receive 3 hours FREE parking across the street at The Market Place parking structure with validation at the Loan Desk.

**Rita Avedissian** received her degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from California State University, Los Angeles. She teaches Counseling & Education at California State University, Los Angeles. She has worked as a school therapist at Pacific Clinics and Glendale Unified School District. She will discuss demographic and historical aspects of Domestic Violence, and the underlying psychological aspects of Domestic Violence and the role of culture, alcohol, and substance abuse. Finally, the psychological repercussions of domestic violence on child development will be presented and discussed.

**Natalie Samarjian** received her Juris Doctor Degree from UCLA School of Law, where she served on the Diversity Action Committee and as the co-editor in chief of *the Journal of Islamic and Near Eastern Law*. Upon graduation from law school, Natalie worked for Rutan & Tucker LLP in their Labor and Employment Law practice group. Natalie is currently a fellow of the Dickran Tevrizian Fellowship, and an attorney at the Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County where she provides legal advocacy to survivors of domestic violence. She will discuss the following legal aspects: Civil law pertaining to victims and survivors of Domestic Violence; Family law pursuant to Domestic Violence; Domestic Violence and Restraining order; Legal rights of Immigrants who are victims of domestic violence.

The program is sponsored by Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Department and Armenian American Mental Health Association.

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CONTACT: Elizabeth Grigorian, Armenian Outreach Coordinator, Glendale Library, Arts & Culture at [egrigorian@glendaleca.gov](mailto:egrigorian@glendaleca.gov) or (818) 548-3288.